
Update of a Catalog of Bosnian Perfins

Speculation and Input

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Hal Hite in his article in the July/August *Perfins Bulletin* suggests that another catalog of this interesting country is in the planning stage. Since there are fewer than 40 Bosnian perfin types, it was an easy task for me to compare the catalog numbering systems of the four catalogs with which I am familiar (see accompanying chart). Each of the four editors was busy with Bosnian perfins in the same short span of years, apparently ignorant of the others' efforts. You will note that there is a considerable difference in assigning numbers to the various perfin types. A few additional perfins were discovered after some of the catalogs had been published. This difference in numbering suggests that any new (or updated) catalog should include a cross reference to the predecessor catalogs for easy cross-referencing.

Bosnia is one of the few 'small' countries in which more than half of the perfin types known are A rated; A suggests that only 1 to 5 copies of the pattern are known. (In the 1989 census, John Nussbickel rated 10 of the 13 then known patterns as As.) Five of the remainder were unrated as not having been located at all. In contrast, only 5 of the patterns were given a E rating (100 or more known).

In my 40+ years of collecting Bosnian perfins I have yet to find perfins in any K(rone) values except those of the 1906 pictorial set. Perhaps others more fortunate than I can report perfins in the high values of sets issued between 1900 and 1917.

Of course, the Bosnian perfin types that most interest me are the ones that I don't have. Four of them have been reported in limited numbers in various Bosnian issues, and five others suspected of being in Bosnian stamps have not been reported, though they are listed in some catalogs. These latter types are reported only in Austrian or Hungarian issues. These nine are listed here in the hopes that *Bulletin* readers will discover and report some of them.

Patterns known in Bosnian stamps

A.B.

K.

L.L.H.

Z.B.

Bosnian Usage in non-Bosnian stamps

HFS (2h crossbar)


Richter

C.B.

CUU

C.C.3.3.

e-Bay auctions have displayed lots more Bosnian perfins and covers. With new members in both the Perfins Club and the Croatian Philatelic Society, there may be reports forthcoming of the scarcer perfin types or even of new types! Please report to Hal Hite or to me if you know of any of the nine types listed above – or of any types not in the following table. Photocopies of the front and back, Scott number, and user ID would be greatly appreciated.



Comparison of Perfin Catalogs for Bosnia				
Perfin pattern	Catalog			
	World Catalog (Perfins Club 1994)	Austrian Catalog (Nussbickel 1991)	Hungarian Catalog (Semmler 1989)	German Catalog (ARGE Lochungen 1992)
A.B.	----	BH1a	----	----
A.H.P.	A1	----	----	A1
A.T.	A2	BH1	B&H1	A2
B.A.G.	A3	BH2	B&H2	B1
C.D.	A4	BH3	B&H3	C1
<u>E.Z.</u>	A5	BH4	B&H4	E1
HFS	A6	BH5	B&H5	H1
HFS *	A7	----	B&H6	----
K	A8	BH6	----	K1
KB **	A9	BH7	B&H7	K2
L.B./F.M.	A10	BH8	B&H8	L1
<u>L.H.</u>	A11	BH9	B&H9	L2
<u>L.L.H.</u>	A12	BH10	B&H10	L3
M.K.R.	A13	BH11	B&H11	M1
M.T.	A14	BH12	B&H12	M2
PAKB	A15	BH13	B&H13	P2
<u>P.L.B.</u>	A16	BH14	B&H14	P2
Richter	A17	BH15	B&H15	R1
C.B.	A18	----	B&H18	----
C.B.M.	A19	BH16	B&H19	S1
CHБ	A20	BH17	B&H20	S2
S.R.(G.)	A21	BH18	----	S3
SRP	A22	BH19	B&H17	S4
<u>CIU</u>	A23	----	B&H22	----
C.C.3.3.	A24	----	B&H21	----
S.T.	A25	BH20	B&H16	S5
<u>S.T.</u>	A26	----	----	S6
ТБЩ	A27	BH21	B&H23	T1
<u>II</u>	A28	BH22	B&H24	T2
B/БФ	----	BH23	----	V1
<u>Z.B.</u>	----	----	----	----
A.B.	----	BH1a	----	----
* Crossbar of H with 2 holes				
** Possible partial of PAKB				
In addition- the German catalog lists three symbols not listed by the others: Symb.1 (] · [), Symb.2 (hammer), and Symb. 3 (◇)				